

ABAC meeting minutes for May 1, 2006

Board members present were Jack Johnson, Stephan Miller, Scott Smith, Ron Sender, Christopher Tonkin, and Ted Packard. Parris Kellerman and Doug Greenfield also attended.

The meeting was called to order at 7:32.

*The minutes from the last meeting were accepted with two spelling changes.

Updates on recent events:

Arlington Town Meeting. Scott told us about the outcome on the warrant article about plowing the Bike Path. The Selectmen took a vote of no action, and Town meeting followed suit with the same vote. There will be a future public hearing on the subject to gauge feeling in the Town regarding plowing the path.

League Cycling Instructor training weekend. Jack told us that 16 new instructors were certified. This will mean less traveling for Jack and the other existing instructors. There is a current backlog of people waiting to take the bicycle skills courses. He also told us that MassBike hired a new executive director, David Watson. Jack will be running a "marketing" ride on the Minuteman Bikeway tomorrow; this is an event to promote bicycle marketing and advocacy networking.

Update on regional "cleanup day" for Minuteman Bikeway on Saturday, May 6. Ron provided an update on Starbucks' participation in the event. He told us that if there are enough people he would like to also pull up garlic mustard along the path. Starbucks' will provide water for the volunteers. We will be dividing into four sections. Each section will have a captain to direct the activities. Thinking about this event reminded us of the question of whether we should for a "Friends of the Bikeway" group in Arlington modeled on the one in Lexington.

Discuss plans for the upcoming Bike Arlington Tour on Sunday May 21. Jack has confirmed that the Old Schwamb Mill will be open on that Sunday for the bike tour. Stephan and Christopher volunteered to provide refreshments. Scott is speaking to the Arlington Center for the Arts about having someone speak to us when we come by during the Tour.

Bike-parking rack requests/offers from the Old Schwamb Mill and Starbucks. The Schwamb Mill and Starbucks have requested help with selecting bike racks. There is some town owned property near the mill where the rack could be located. Starbucks would like to purchase one rack for each of their stores in Arlington.

ACTION ITEM: Check with the Town about surplus racks that may be in storage.

Status of the Minuteman Bikeway brochures. We need to have the brochure reprinted, so we discussed changes that might need to be made before that happens. At first glance, the existing brochure does not seem outdated.

ACTION ITEM: We will all review the brochure to determine if any significant changes need to be made.

Ron said that he would like to see mile markers added to the map on the brochure.

Open forum. Ted told us about a special bicycle ride to honor Bobby Mac. The date has been set for the Tour de Mac on Saturday, June 17. More information will be posted on the Quad Cycle web site.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10